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ABSTRACT

This study was developed on the hypothesis that economic inflation reduced the purchasing power of local support for public libraries from 1967 through fiscal 1976. The total local support for public libraries in each county in each year of the study was adjusted from the reported nominal amount to the relative Consumer Price Index value of 1967 to show the impact of economic inflation. The nominal and adjusted figures are presented in tabular form, arranged by library development districts. Analysis of the data indicates that, while budgets have seemingly increased, economic inflation has reduced the purchasing power of public library supportive funds. In several instances, increases were not sufficient to offset inflation. Not only must inflation be considered in the planning of public library services and the budgeting of their support, but more attention should be given to the development of contingency plans in the event anticipated increases in support do not offset inflationary trends. Finally, regional library directors and local public librarians should be provided with the necessary data on inflation to be incorporated into fiscal planning. (Author/JAB)

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# THE EFFECT OF ECONOMIC INFLATION ON LOCAL PUBLIC LIBRARY SUPPORT IN KENTUCKY, 1967 - 1976

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November, 1977



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# 1. INTRODUCTION

Adequate financial support has always been the major concern of public libraries. Since 1973 this concern has become a critical factor in their operation. While budgets have seemingly increased, many public libraries are experiencing fiscal difficulty in improving services and in even maintaining services on a stable level from one year to the next. This study explores one of the possible causes for the financial uncertainty confronting public libraries in Kentucky today, economic inflation.

## THE PROBLEM

The problem considered by this study was:

> What effect has economic inflation had on public library funding in the Commonwealth of Kentucky from 1967 through fiscal 1976?

The general hypothesis that guided the development of the study was:

> Economic inflation reduced the purchasing power of local support for Kentucky public libraries during the period, 1967 through fiscal 1976.

## RATIONALE

Public library services have been a vital segment of the educational picture in the United States. The learning process does not cease when a person leaves the formal classroom but

continues on an informal basis throughout life. The public library is the basic element in the informal education process beyond the formal school years and is increasing in importance within the scheme of formal education.

American education has evolved into an instrument employed for the strengthening, perpetuating, and safeguarding of the American way of life. The public library is in a unique position to furnish much of the necessary informational resources required for our educational and socio-political systems to function. To accomplish this purpose, the public library must be adequately supported not just in rhetoric, but also in money.

Education is a process by which an individual, either through his own efforts or the help of another individual or group, develops competencies and acquires desirable attitudes and new knowledge. This process is based upon purposeful learning experiences which are distinct from random or incidental ones. The educational process within the library context is concerned with intellectual, vocational, cultural, aesthetic, personal, and community development. The ultimate educational aim, then, of the public library is the advancement of continuing education that is manifested in such specific objectives as increasing self-realization and personal awareness, improving the social and economic environment, increasing civic enlightenment, extending community awareness, and providing a basis for collective and personal decisions and actions (Lee, 121).

The public library was the first tax-supported public agency established in the United States for the informal education of adults. It was specifically organized to provide an opportunity

for mature persons to continue to further their education through their own efforts (Lee, 1).

Public library services are a vital segment of the educational picture in the United States. To neglect public library services is certain to weaken the educational foundation of our democratic society. The necessity of providing the public with as many different ideas and experiences through the written word was well expressed by Ruth Ann Davies (3) in the following statement:

> Democratic concern for education is predicated on the assumption that an educated citizenry will be competent to act intelligently and thereby preserve its freedom. Conversely, an uneducated electorate not perceiving dangers inherent in unwise decisions will enforce false doctorines and as a result lose its freedom.

The major function of schools and colleges is to provide formal instruction, while the function of the public library is to provide materials, assistance, stimulation, group services and activities, and special services and programs. Thus, the public librarian is a helper, advisor, and stimulator with the public library user being aware of his responsibility for his own education (Lee, 122).

Students and those outside of the formal school structure must be provided with access to the largest possible reservoir of knowledge in the community. This encompasses the total education system: schools, colleges, universities, and public libraries (Humphry, V).

A public library has two major and unique functions. First, it makes possible for meetings of the mind with ideas which are

not limited by normal boundaries of time, space, and social or economic level. Second, it is the institution in our society which allows and encourages the development and extension of ideas, not merely their absorption but their active generation. The public librarian is "a teacher whose subject is learning itself, and his class has no limits on age, field of study, or degree of competence" (Knight, 496).

In their survey of Louisiana libraries John A. Humphry and James Humphry III (20) asked the question, 'What is the unique role of the public library?" The responses from professional librarians emphasized a few basic functions: free service to all persons without question of user purpose or intention, provision of the widest possible range of resources for information and for decision making, as a repository of man's recorded past, and provision of resources for educational purposes, formal and informal. Also frequently mentioned were recreational and group services, motivation and interpretation of the use of library materials, and service to adults. State library staff members stressed service to all but the"student in school" and service in response to demand. Library school faculty members mentioned the "neutrality" of the public libraries and their responsibility for coordinating the services among all types of libraries and compensating for any omission in the total framework of services provided by all libraries.

Libraries at Large (Knight, 18), listed five emerging library responsibilities of public libraries. While these responsibilities or functions are aimed at libraries of all types, they are consistent with those functions usually ascribed to public libraries. These

responsibilities focus on the following priorities: to support formal education from pre-kindergarten through graduate and professional studies, to sustain the increasingly complex operations of all levels of government and the economy of the country, to provide opportunities for continuing self-education and vocational training, to play a role in the reintegration into society of ethnic and social groups that are largely isolated and excluded by deficiencies in formal education and vocational training, and to provide resources necessary for an informed public opinion and for personal, cultural, and intellectual growth and individualization.

According to a study by the Public Library Association (26), emphasis on public library financing as a concern of respondents to a questionnaire increased during a three-month period, July through September 1971. Earlier replies focused on services and the need for more effective public relations, but later responses overwhelmingly were concerned with monetary matters, specifically the financial base of public libraries. The future of the ad valorem tax as a prime source of income for library service was questioned.

An examination of the professional literature of librarianship indicated that concern among public librarians for public library services six years later is more acute. Large urban libraries make the news with termination of services, reduction in hours, release of personnel, closing of branches, reduction of budgets for acquisition of materials that are escalating in cost, etc. Certainly, small public libraries are having the same experiences.

Yet, with all the concern for the fiscal blight of public libraries today, few studies have been done exploring the economic factors contributing to their financial problems. This initial study of economic inflation and its effects on public library funding in Kentucky will hopefully shed some light on what is happening economically in the public library arena.

## DEFINITIONS

Adjusted - The value of a unit of money in relation to its value in a base year.

Consumer Price Index - A weighted average of prices of goods and services commonly purchased by working class families in urban areas. Often referred to as a "cost of living index" (Spencer, 151).

Fiscal year - The financial year beginning on July 1 and ending June 30 of the next calendar year. The numerical designation of a fiscal year is the calendar year of its termination.

Inflation - A rise in the general price level (or average level of prices) of all goods and services. A reduction in the purchasing power of a unit of money (Spencer, 150).

Local government - One or more of the constituent parts of a state government which serve the needs of a particular and limited district. For this study, the term local refers to county.

Nominal - The unadjusted cost of goods and services in any given year.

Public library - A library open to use by the general public. A public library is distinguished from school libraries, college and university libraries, and special libraries like business or law that are limited in use to a specific clientele. Public library programs or services are provided and controlled by a public library or libraries.

## PROCEDURE

Forms (see Appendix A) requesting the total local support for public libraries by county for the fiscal years 1967-1976 were sent to each of the fifteen regional library development district offices in Kentucky. The reported amounts were combined for each county with no distinction made between city or county funds used for library support.

The total local support for public libraries in each county in each year of the study was adjusted from the reported nominal amount to the relative value of 1967 to show the impact of economic inflation. Adjustment in dollar values was computed using the Consumer Price Index (see Appendix B). The unadjusted or nominal amount and the adjusted figures were then presented in tabular form arranged by library development district.

The specific analysis of the data and the formulation of conclusions were made by inspection of the prepared tables. The recommendations are based upon the conclusions and are of a general nature.

## 2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

### PUBLIC LIBRARY PLANNING AND BUDGETING

#### Planning

S. Janice Kee (16) asserted that public planning is an important force in producing change in public librarianship. All kinds of communities, small and large, are now engaged in detailed planning activities as a means of preparing for change. Most state library agencies are still learning the process of statewide library planning and have progressed to a large degree toward mastery of such planning. The direction and purpose provided in a state plan are recognized as important factors in library improvement and development. In a survey by Kee more than half of the state libraries gave a high rating to the benefits of surveys, research reports, and state plans as effective means of advancing library goals.

A basic consideration in the planning and evaluation of programs and services by librarians identified by Ray M. Fry (230) is that of library statistics. Going back to the early days of the LSA and LSCA legislation, state library agencies have relied heavily on straight statistical reporting for original needs and for determination of progress under the federal programs. Great weight is placed on the library statistics collected and published by the Office of Education with the American Library Association (ALA) standards for public libraries serving as the basis for identifying and evaluating needs. The fundamental flaw in such a policy of planning is that

the ALA standards, geared to individual libraries, are applied by the federal government to the national picture of public library services.

Three major factors with implications for planning are flexible funding, publicity, and interfaces with nonpublic libraries. With regard to flexible funding, Mersel (331) suggested that state level administrative agencies should work toward changing the type of funding that public libraries receive. Long-term budgetary allocations prevent libraries from increasing their services beyond that which the budget allows. Budgets that could be easily adjusted to meet larger demands would possibly reduce the present tendency to continue giving only a little more to public libraries than had previously been offered.

According to Libraries at Large (Knight, 5) social change has a direct influence upon the services of public libraries. For example, population shifts by which millions of displaced people found themselves in urban centers required the establishment of new institutions to serve them. These institutions of necessity were new and innovative in location, physical facilities, resources, staff, and often radically new in orientation and purpose. Public library planning has to adjust and respond to the major forces shaping our society.

Budgeting

Dorothy Sinclair (26-27) indicated that the most important part of library business in which the librarian and board work together is the preparation of the library budget. Budget preparation, like most other managerial activities, is made easier with careful planning.

If the librarian and the library trustees agree on objectives and a long-range plan for anticipated library growth and development, budget preparation becomes a matter of determining how much of the program can be attemped financially in any particular year. If the long-range plan is approved at least in principle by the appropriating or taxing body or by planning officials in addition to the library board, preparation of the budget and the securance of approval is much easier.

Also affecting library planning and service development is the inability of public libraries to react quickly to demands for more services. Budgets often have to be devised so far in advance that large increases in services may prematurely exhaust available funds. Another major difficulty or obstacle is a lack of suitable measures of library performance. Circulation statistics, which are the usual measure of library performance, are generally viewed as inadequate by professional librarians because circulation statistics alone are not sufficient to determine the needs of a community or the library's degree of effectiveness in meeting those needs (Mersel, 325).

Sinclair (31) stated that librarians under the stimulus of growing library use, often make the plea for a larger budget solely on the basis of circulation increases. When circulation levels off, a budget increase is often still needed although no acceptable groundwork has been laid for it.

Sinclair (27) emphasized that long-range budget planning is one of the most important duties of public library administrations. It is often very easy under daily pressures to operate a library on

a year-to-year basis. A careful, detailed, and imaginative plan for anticipating needs and financial requirements in the future should take into account the availability of funds from local and state and national sources.

Budgeting was viewed by Mosher (235) as a system of orderly competition occurring in the councils of higher authority and not in the market place. Each administrator is in competition with his associates for his share of the budget "pie". The observation was made that strong unitary agencies, such as state library agencies, can develop such a solid budgetary position that internal competition may be stifled in order to present a united front. This tendency is strengthened when the administrative personnel within the unit are strongly bound together by a common core of doctrine, professionalism, and career identification. Mosher (236) stressed the fact that such restraints to free internal competition are a major obstacle in public budgeting.

Mosher (235) identified a common but controversial phenomenon in budgeting which is the "law of anticipated reactions." According to this budgetary principle, an administrator that expects higher echelons to cut his estimates of funding needs insures against serious damage to his budget by inflating proposed figures to the maximum and sometimes beyond. To outside observers this might appear to be "padding" and "empire building" but the perpetrator is usually able to rationalize it as only common sense and protection of necessary services and programs. "Padding" of budgets is accepted in public administration as a favor to reviewing bodies in order for them to make and proclaim cuts without real damage to any agency.

The very expectation of budget review may encourage budget padding.

In outlining the functions of public library trustees, Wheeler and Goldhor (114-115) pointed out that the prevalence of poor public library support has no sound or logical cause except for the failure of the trustees to compel better support. Tax money has often gone to meet those needs that public officials, and not the people, consider important. Indifference of voters to the public library is due in part to their lack of understanding of public library services and largely to the unwillingness of public officials to take a firm position of support for public library programs and services.

## ECONOMIC INFLATION

### General Types

Inflation, simply stated, is a decrease in the purchasing power of a monetary unit such as the dollar. There are generally two types of inflation: demand-pull and cost-push. Demand-pull is the traditional type of inflation which occurs when aggregate demand is rising while the available supply of goods is becoming increasingly limited. Some economists describe this as too much money chasing too few goods (Spencer, 150).

Cost-push or creeping inflation is a result of labor-management relations, administred prices, and government policy (Fusfeld, 363). Cost-push inflation occurs when prices increase because factor payments to one or more groups of resource owners rise faster than productivity or efficiency (Spencer, 151).

Cost-push inflation may be of a wage-push, profit-push, or commodity nature. It may also result from a combination of all three. Wage-push is the situation in which labor unions force wage increases without increasing productivity. Profit-push is the situation when sellers try to increase their profit margins by raising prices rather than by reducing production costs through increased efficiency. Finally, commodity inflation occurs when energy and raw material costs rise sufficiently to cause significant increases in production costs which result in higher prices for finished goods (Spencer, 151).

The demand-pull and cost-push hypotheses of inflation represent extreme viewpoints with many economists not totally subscribing to either. Economists generally tend to be eclectic because they believe that something can be said for both points of view and because the two concepts are not mutually exclusive (Miernyk, 297).

Effects

Inflation has a definite impact on people and institutions. A decline in the value of the dollar causes creditors, lenders, or depositors to receive less in real purchasing power, and it causes debtors or borrowers to pay less in real dollar values (Reynolds, 190).

People and institutions who do not correctly predict inflation are often unable to effectively adjust their economic activities in order to compensate for it. Subsequently, some experience gains while others endure losses (Spencer, 152). Unexpected price level changes cause an uneven redistribution of real purchasing power haphazardly and inequitably in a manner unrelated to society's goals (Spencer, 153).

Future Inflation

Will prices every stop rising? Many economists believe not because the modern economy is inflation prone. Three reasons for this are governmental commitment to economic growth and prosperity, differences between productivity and demands for higher wages, and the administration of prices by large industries which pass higher costs of production on to consumers with higher prices (Fusfeld, 362).

Government policy is particularly contributory to economic inflation. This policy emphasizes high levels of employment through deficit spending and the maintenance of easy credit policies (Miernyk, 300). The goal of modern governmental price policy is not complete price stability but a constant state of inflation that enables citizens to anticipate and adjust to rising prices (Spencer, 155).

## PRICE INDEXES

Price indexes indicate and measure inflationary trends in an economy. A price index may not cover all prices. Many are computed for a particular group of prices covering only a part of the economy (Lancaster, 379). Since confidence in any index series number declines as the difference between the structure of the economy in base years and the year under consideration increases, price index series are revised at intervals with the revisions consisting of improvements, such as inclusion of a larger number of goods (Lancaster, 382).

The best known price indexes in the United States are the Wholesale Price Index and the Consumer Price Index. Both are published by the U. S. Department of Labor (Lancaster, 382). The

Wholesale Price Index is a weighted average of selected items priced in wholesale markets and includes raw materials, semifinished products, and finished products. The Consumer Price Index (CPI) covers goods and services commonly purchased by urban working class families. The CPI is often referred to as a "cost of living index" and is the one with which the general public is most familiar (Spencer, 151).

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is based on prices of about 400 items which are selected to represent the movement of prices of all goods and services purchased by average wage earners. Prices of specific items are obtained in the urban centers of thirty-nine major standard metropolitan statistical areas and seventeen smaller cities which are chosen to represent all urban areas in the United States. The price information is collected from 18,000 establishments, such as groceries, department stores, hospitals, and service stations (U.S. Dept. of Labor, 20).

Prices of food, fuels, and some other items are obtained every month in all fifty-six locations. The prices of most other commodities and services are collected every month in the five largest areas and every three months in the smaller ones. The actual prices of most goods and services are obtained by personal visits of trained representatives from the Bureau of Labor Statistics to retail outlets. Mail questionnaires are used to obtain public utility rates, newspaper prices, local transit fares, fuel prices, and certain other items (U.S. Dept. of Labor, 20).

The CPI measures price changes from a designated reference year which is currently 1967. The index for the base year equals

100. An increase of 22 percent in the index is shown as 122.0. This change can also be expressed in dollars. For example, a market basket of goods and services that costs $10.00 in the base year would cost $12.20 with a 22 percent index jump for the same goods and services. Movements of the CPI from one month to another are expressed as percent changes rather than index point changes because index point changes are affected by the level of the index in relation to its base period while percent changes are not (U.S. Dept. of Labor, 20).

The CPI has been calculated successively to bases 1917-19 (from 1913 through 1935), 1934-36 (1936-1949), 1947-49 (1950-1963), 1957-59 (1964-1970) and currently 1967 (1971 to date). Small intermediate revisions were made during these periods (Lancaster, 382). The revision of the present Consumer Price Index by the Bureau of Labor Statistics is underway and should be completed by early 1978 (U.S. Dept. of Labor, 1).

## PURCHASE LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

Inspection of Table 1 suggests that public library budgets in the Purchases Library Development District tended to rise during the period of the study. These increases occurred irregularly for several programs.

Nominal local monetary support increased during the ten year period while adjusted income based on 1967 dollar values rose at a slower rate and sometimes declined due to economic inflation. Several examples of this are evident. The nominal budget figures for Calloway County increased from $56,064 in 1972 to $57,388 in 1973. At the same time inflation was reducing the local adjusted support from $44,744 to $43,116. While the nominal budget for Calloway County public library services increased 57 percent from 1973 to 1976, the adjusted support increased only 22 percent.

Local support for Fulton County public library programs increased about 14 percent from 1972 to 1976 while the purchasing power of its budget declined 17 percent. Nominal budget increases were not sufficient to offset the impact of inflation because public library support actually declined in value during the period.

The local support for public library services for Paducah and McCracken County increased from $134,808 in 1972-73 to $197,916 in 1975-76 or about 47 percent. Adjusting for inflation reduced the budget increase to 14 percent.

## 3. INTERPRETATION OF DATA

The adjusted amounts shown in the following tables are estimates because of seasonal fluctuations in the Consumer Price Index and other factors affecting the economic picture. The actual adjusted values could be higher or lower than the tables indicate. The data shown do suggest a pattern in the funding of public libraries in Kentucky.

The narratives for each table present examples of how economic inflation can reduce public library funding over a period of time. The examples were randomly selected by inspection of the tables. Describing the effect of inflation on public library support for each and every county was not attempted.

Table 1
Purchase Library Development District

| County | 1966-67 | | 1967-68 | | 1968-69 | | 1969-70 | | 1970-71 | | 1971-72 | | 1972-73 | | 1973-74 | | 1974-75 | | 1975-76 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. |
| Calloway | 7381 | | 42995 | 41262 | 42995 | 39158 | 45306 | 38956 | 51827 | 42726 | 56064 | 44744 | 57388 | 43116 | 62472 | 42297 | 70661 | 43134 | 90366 | 52722 |
| Fulton | 908 | | 29986 | 28777 | 1218 | 1109 | 21606 | 18578 | 21930 | 18079 | 22557 | 18002 | 22340 | 16784 | 23705 | 16049 | 24214 | 15021 | 25621 | 14948 |
| Graves | 16463 | | 10125 | 9717 | 43295 | 39431 | 42723 | 36735 | 56966 | 46963 | | | 29925 | 22483 | 31930 | 21618 | 35088 | 21767 | 41867 | 24426 |
| Hickman | 2199 | | 14673 | 14082 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Marshall | 3520 | | 35106 | 33691 | 38282 | 34865 | 39204 | 33709 | 42851 | 35326 | 45936 | 36661 | 46966 | 35286 | 47968 | 32477 | 53596 | 33248 | 64579 | 37677 |
| McCracken | 71276 | | 128228 | 123060 | 139740 | 127268 | 135780 | 116750 | 132175 | 108965 | 150519 | 120127 | 134808 | 101283 | 148077 | 100255 | 140611 | 87228 | 197916 | 115470 |

PENNYRILE LIBRARY
DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

In Table 2 Caldwell County provides a good example of how public library support can be negatively affected by economic inflation. In fiscal 1969 the unadjusted or nominal local support was $28,061 which by fiscal 1976 had risen to $41,509. During the same period, the adjusted support decreased from $25,556 to $24,218. While the nominal support for public library services increased $13,448, the purchasing power of that money decreased $1,008 according to the Consumer Price Index.

Table 2
Pennyrile Library Development District

| County | 1966-67 | | 1967-68 | | 1968-69 | | 1969-70 | | 1970-71 | | 1971-72 | | 1972-73 | | 1973-74 | | 1974-75 | | 1975-76 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. |
| Hopkins | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 91986 | 53667 |
| Lyon | | | 11718 | 11246 | 15859 | 14444 | 16208 | 13936 | 17120 | 14114 | 18347 | 14642 | 22453 | 16869 | 26313 | 17815 | 26498 | 16438 | 28145 | 16421 |
| Muhlenberg | | | | | | | | | | | 53116 | 42931 | 45292 | 34029 | 60120 | 40704 | 81515 | 50568 | 83915 | 48959 |
| Caldwell | | | 25906 | 24862 | 28061 | 25556 | 29548 | 25407 | 31634 | 26079 | 33559 | 26782 | 32310 | 24275 | 34745 | 23524 | 37921 | 23524 | 41509 | 24218 |
| Christian | 14500 | | 17000 | 16315 | 13500 | 12295 | 23496 | 20203 | 25000 | 20611 | 25000 | 19952 | 25500 | 19159 | 40000 | 27082 | 52500 | 32568 | 57500 | 33547 |
| Crittenden | 4026 | | 5581 | 5356 | 5584 | 5086 | 5590 | 4807 | 7505 | 6187 | 11858 | 9464 | 14510 | 10902 | 17879 | 5334 | 30930 | 19187 | 36605 | 21356 |

## GREEN RIVER LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

Examination of Table 3 suggests that public library budgets in the Green River Library Development rose during the period of the study, 1967-76. The increases occurred regularly; yet, the adjusted value of the local monies for public libraries rose more slowly than the nominal support and in some cases declined.

In Davies County local support for public libraries rose from $65,533 in 1967 to $206,114 in 1976, an increase of $140,581. In adjusted dollar values the increase amounted to $54,720.

Local support for public libraries in Hancock County in fiscal 1973 was $25,843 which increased to $29,005 in 1976. Adjusting for economic inflation with the CPI reduced the 1973 amount to $19,416 with the 1976 value falling to $16,922. While the reported local expenditures for public services increased $3,162 from 1973 to 1976, the actual or adjusted value of the budgeted money declined $2,494.

Table 3
Green River Library Development District

| County | 1966-67 | | 1967-68 | | 1968-69 | | 1969-70 | | 1970-71 | | 1971-72 | | 1972-73 | | 1973-74 | | 1974-75 | | 1975-76 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. |
| Davies | 65533 | | 70090 | 67265 | 92317 | 84077 | 107642 | 92555 | 116504 | 96046 | 128000 | 102155 | 166295 | 124940 | 173000 | 117129 | 185265 | 114929 | 206114 | 120253 |
| Hancock | | | 10508 | 10084 | 11819 | 10764 | 14032 | 12065 | 17745 | 14629 | 23121 | 18453 | 25843 | 19416 | 26038 | 17629 | 27003 | 16751 | 29005 | 16922 |
| Henderson | 26037 | | 26957 | 25870 | 28783 | 26214 | 28905 | 24854 | 30754 | 25354 | 31292 | 24974 | 32702 | 24569 | 47545 | 32190 | 53716 | 33323 | 58234 | 33975 |
| Ohio | 17237 | | 18044 | 17317 | 20115 | 18320 | 19148 | 16464 | 18618 | 15349 | 20102 | 16043 | 21255 | 15969 | 22360 | 15139 | 29365 | 18217 | 33096 | 19309 |
| Union | 13548 | | 14772 | 14177 | 15648 | 14251 | 15939 | 13705 | 19176 | 15809 | 21099 | 16839 | 21231 | 15951 | 22205 | 15034 | 31923 | 19803 | 36172 | 21104 |
| Webster | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 18586 | 12584 | 20437 | 12678 | 23151 | 13507 |

BARREN RIVER LIBRARY
DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

Table 4 indicates that nominal budget amounts may be considerably more than their adjusted value. While the budget for public library service from local resources in Barren County increased $7, 792 from 1974 to 1976, the increase in the purchasing power amounted to only $557.

Another example of how inflation can cut into funding increases for public libraries is the Hart County budget from 1973 through 1976. According to Table 4 the unadjusted support for public libraries in Hart County rose from $26,443 in fiscal 1972-73 to $30,695 in fiscal 1975-76 for a total increase of $4,252. During this same four year period, the purchasing power of the available money declined by $1,959.

The support of public library services in Warren County for 1973-74 and 1974-75 suggest that maintenance or continuity budgeting can cause fiscal problems. In 1973-74 the local support was $100,000 and it remained $100,000 through the next year. The adjusted value of the 1973-74 budget was $67,705 which dropped $5,670 to $62,035 the next year.

Table 4
Barren River Library Development District

| County | 1966-67 | | 1967-68 | | 1968-69 | | 1969-70 | | 1970-71 | | 1971-72 | | 1972-73 | | 1973-74 | | 1974-75 | | 1975-76 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. |
| Allen | 5886 | | 5480 | 5259 | 7530 | 6858 | 8840 | 7601 | 9040 | 7453 | 9180 | 7326 | 9480 | 7122 | 10344 | 7003 | 11096 | 6883 | 12870 | 7508 |
| Barren | 16000 | | 16429 | 15767 | 19129 | 17422 | 18584 | 15979 | 34974 | 28833 | 40881 | 32626 | 35340 | 26551 | 42617 | 28853 | 46217 | 28670 | 50409 | 29410 |
| Butler | 2007 | | 14324 | 13794 | 14779 | 13460 | 15840 | 13620 | 16551 | 13645 | 17753 | 14168 | 17070 | 12825 | 18777 | 12713 | 23104 | 14333 | 25386 | 14811 |
| Edmonson | 8799 | | 9425 | 9045 | 9561 | 8707 | 10024 | 8619 | 10547 | 8695 | 11241 | 8971 | 17336 | 13025 | 12275 | 8311 | 12490 | 7748 | 14782 | 8624 |
| Hart | 1888 | | 20027 | 19220 | 21446 | 19532 | 23989 | 18047 | 22697 | 18711 | 23040 | 18388 | 26443 | 19867 | 27527 | 18637 | 28569 | 17723 | 30695 | 17908 |
| Logan | 27572 | | 30685 | 29448 | 29906 | 27237 | 31289 | 26904 | 32551 | 26835 | 36017 | 28745 | 41425 | 31123 | 44351 | 30028 | 46694 | 28967 | 56370 | 32888 |
| Metcalfe | 3061 | | 16626 | 15956 | 16797 | 15298 | 17673 | 15196 | 21295 | 17556 | 22244 | 17753 | 2548 | 16187 | 22150 | 14997 | 23286 | 14445 | 26529 | 15478 |
| Monroe | 10906 | | 11109 | 10661 | 11447 | 10425 | 12660 | 10886 | 13843 | 11412 | 15556 | 12415 | 14422 | 10835 | 16884 | 11431 | 16500 | 10236 | 15946 | 9303 |
| Simpson | 14569 | | 12819 | 12302 | 13316 | 12128 | 14231 | 12236 | 18425 | 15190 | 18570 | 14820 | 17086 | 12837 | 17586 | 11907 | 20336 | 12615 | 34256 | 19986 |
| Warren | 16910 | | 27000 | 25912 | 43450 | 39572 | 57160 | 49149 | 67366 | 55537 | 72366 | 57754 | 81890 | 61525 | 100000 | 67705 | 100000 | 62035 | 111000 | 64761 |

LINCOLN TRAIL LIBRARY
DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

Inspection of Table 5 also suggests that economic inflation has substantially reduced the purchasing power of public library funds. For example, in fiscal 1969 Breckinridge County public library support was $26,489 and by 1976 had increased to $50,874. While support was increasing, the increases were being offset by pernicious inflation. While the nominal support had increased $24,385 between 1969 and 1976, the buying power of that support had increased by only $5,556 when adjusted by the Consumer Price Index.

Table 5
Lincoln Trail Library Development District

| County | 1966-67 | | 1967-68 | | 1968-69 | | 1969-70 | | 1970-71 | | 1971-72 | | 1972-73 | | 1973-74 | | 1974-75 | | 1975-76 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. |
| Breckinridge | 4373 | | 23852 | 22891 | 26489 | 24125 | 27781 | 23887 | 33289 | 27444 | 35815 | 28583 | 35686 | 26811 | 36345 | 24607 | 42490 | 26359 | 50874 | 29681 |
| Hardin | 23850 | | 24715 | 23719 | 24823 | 22607 | 27009 | 23224 | 27246 | 22462 | 30337 | 24211 | 30874 | 23196 | 33126 | 22428 | 34536 | 21424 | 45007 | 26258 |
| La Rue | 3803 | | 17898 | 17177 | 18938 | 17248 | 19110 | 16432 | 18434 | 15197 | 20131 | 16066 | 21840 | 16409 | 22166 | 15007 | 24293 | 15070 | 32504 | 18964 |
| Marion | 10529 | | 16924 | 16242 | 18446 | 16800 | 18961 | 16304 | 20683 | 17051 | 20176 | 16102 | 19852 | 14915 | 20912 | 14158 | 22633 | 14059 | 28344 | 16537 |
| Meade | 12684 | | 15235 | 14621 | 15961 | 14536 | 17202 | 14791 | 18285 | 15074 | 19641 | 15675 | 20617 | 15490 | 23745 | 16077 | 27655 | 17156 | 30699 | 17911 |
| Nelson | | | 32338 | 31035 | 44091 | 40156 | 68692 | 59064 | 37861 | 31213 | 38329 | 30590 | 39837 | 29930 | 40661 | 27529 | 43636 | 27069 | 48826 | 28487 |
| Washington | 10564 | | 9277 | 8903 | 9589 | 8733 | 10151 | 8728 | 13438 | 11078 | 11095 | 8855 | 11774 | 8846 | 12295 | 8324 | 12940 | 8027 | 16344 | 9530 |

KENTUCKIANA LIBRARY
DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

Another example of how inflation can reduce the purchasing power of public library monies is shown in Table 6 for Shelby County for the period fiscal 1974-1976. While the nominal support for public library services in Shelby County rose $1,650 during this three year period, the value of its monetary support declined about $960 according to the Consumer Price Index.

Table 6
Kentuckiana Library Development District

| County | 1966-67 | | 1967-68 | | 1968-69 | | 1969-70 | | 1970-71 | | 1971-72 | | 1972-73 | | 1973-74 | | 1974-75 | | 1975-76 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. |
| Bullit | 1835 | | 18425 | 17682 | 19826 | 18056 | 23236 | 19979 | 29891 | 24642 | 29444 | 23499 | 50927 | 28162 | 57690 | 39059 | 68731 | 42637 | 70685 | 41240 |
| Oldham | -0- | | 6079 | 5834 | 6897 | 6281 | 20517 | 17641 | 27309 | 22514 | 34950 | 27893 | 42011 | 31563 | 133960 | 90697 | 153967 | 95513 | 67580 | 39428 |
| Spencer | -0- | | 1000 | 960 | 1300 | 1184 | 1200 | 1032 | 1200 | 989 | 1200 | 958 | 1500 | 1127 | 1315 | 890 | 1741 | 1080 | 1715 | 1001 |
| Shelby | 11638 | | 15186 | 14574 | 12756 | 11617 | 23566 | 20263 | 19602 | 16160 | 19903 | 15884 | 27796 | 20884 | 23274 | 15758 | 24139 | 14975 | 25364 | 14798 |
| Henry | 11575 | | 11837 | 11360 | 12156 | 11071 | 12219 | 10506 | 13377 | 11028 | 17390 | 13879 | 19159 | 14394 | 32239 | 21827 | 36698 | 22766 | 42460 | 24772 |
| Trimble | 550 | | 600 | 576 | 550 | 501 | 300 | 148 | 600 | 495 | 7269 | 5801 | 7223 | 5427 | 8465 | 5731 | 18775 | 11647 | 11819 | 6896 |
| Jefferson Co. & Louisville | 1105845 | | 1150845 | 1104458 | 1276680 | 1162732 | 1501049 | 1290670 | 1606630 | 1324509 | 1575000 | 1256983 | 2059000 | 1546957 | 2029558 | 1374108 | 2323000 | 1441067 | 1679980 | 980152 |

## NORTHERN KENTUCKY LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

Local support for public library programs in Kenton County increased $266,412 from fiscal 1969 through fiscal 1976 according to Table 7. Yet, the purchasing power of that support for public libraries increased a total of only $29,020 when adjusted by the Consumer Price Index for the same period.

Table 7
Northern Kentucky Library Development District

| County | 1966-67 | | 1967-68 | | 1968-69 | | 1969-70 | | 1970-71 | | 1971-72 | | 1972-73 | | 1973-74 | | 1974-75 | | 1975-76 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. |
| Boone | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 79295 | 49190 | 101247 | 59071 |
| Carroll | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 10914 | 6770 | 4672 | 2726 |
| Grant | | | | | | | 3545 | 3048 | 3962 | 3266 | 3410 | 2721 | 3444 | 2588 | 3431 | 2323 | 3357 | 2083 | 4100 | 2392 |
| Kenton | | | | | 355656 | 323913 | 362580 | 311763 | 381035 | 314126 | 403668 | 322161 | 452670 | 340098 | 493983 | 341384 | 540996 | 335605 | 622068 | 362933 |
| Owen | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 22125 | 12908 |
| Pendelton | 1376 | | 1245 | 1195 | 10425 | 9495 | 12723 | 10940 | 12235 | 10086 | 13834 | 11041 | 15068 | 11321 | 15805 | 10701 | 22146 | 13738 | 25300 | 14761 |

BUFFALO TRACE LIBRARY
DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

In Table 8 Rowan County public libraries received $43,190 in fiscal 1973 which increased by $6,621 to $49,811 in fiscal 1976. During the same period, the adjusted value of the library support declined a total of $3,388.

Mason County is another example of the effect that inflation has on public library support. Table 8 shows that nominal local support in Mason County increased a total of $9,079 from fiscal 1973 through fiscal 1976 while the adjusted value of its money increased by $650.

Table 8
Buffalo Trace Library Development District

| County | 1966-67 | | 1967-68 | | 1968-69 | | 1969-70 | | 1970-71 | | 1971-72 | | 1972-73 | | 1973-74 | | 1974-75 | | 1975-76 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. |
| * Bath | 4559 | | 4691 | 4502 | 6571 | 5930 | 6526 | 5611 | 6762 | 5575 | 7294 | 5821 | 8725 | 6555 | 8378 | 5672 | 10292 | 6385 | 9456 | 5517 |
| * Menifee | | | 3878 | 3722 | 3841 | 3498 | 3330 | 2863 | 2723 | 2245 | 3475 | 2773 | 5409 | 4064 | 6452 | 4368 | 6596 | 4092 | 6065 | 3539 |
| * Rowan | 1100 | | 1188 | 1140 | 601 | 547 | 40043 | 34431 | 40693 | 33547 | 44064 | 35167 | 43190 | 32449 | 44898 | 30398 | 48287 | 29915 | 49811 | 29061 |
| Fleming | 10098 | | 8946 | 8585 | 10680 | 9727 | 10319 | 8873 | 11689 | 9636 | 11628 | 9280 | 14044 | 10551 | 13254 | 8974 | 15098 | 9366 | 17243 | 10060 |
| Mason | | | | | | | 26640 | 22906 | 24730 | 20387 | 33351 | 26617 | 27678 | 20795 | 31239 | 21150 | 33517 | 20792 | 36757 | 21445 |
| Lewis | | | 10520 | 10096 | 6771 | 6167 | 6786 | 5835 | 9782 | 8064 | 10150 | 8101 | 11114 | 8350 | 12491 | 8457 | 13922 | 8636 | 16361 | 9546 |

* Gateway Library Development District

FIVCO LIBRARY
DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

Table 9 offers another example of how the support for public library services, though nominally increasing, may actually decline because of economic inflation. The local nominal support in Lawrence County went from $17,886 in 1973 to $22,313 in 1976, a total increase of $4,427. The purchasing power of that money in the same period declined from $13,438 to $13,018 for a loss of $420.

Table 9
Fivco Library Development District

| County | 1966-67 | | 1967-68 | | 1968-69 | | 1969-70 | | 1970-71 | | 1971-72 | | 1972-73 | | 1973-74 | | 1974-75 | | 1975-76 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. |
| Lawrence | 10199 | | 10821 | 10385 | 11799 | 10746 | 12574 | 10812 | 15407 | 12702 | 18138 | 14476 | 17886 | 13438 | 19465 | 13179 | 21827 | 13540 | 22313 | 13018 |
| Greenup | | | | | | | | | | | 56824 | 45350 | 60459 | 45424 | 63954 | 43300 | 70252 | 43581 | 74532 | 43484 |
| Ashland Public Boyd Co. | | | | | | | | | | | 91093 | 72700 | 93104 | 69950 | 101315 | 68595 | 118769 | 73678 | 127118 | 74165 |
| Elliott | -0- | | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- |
| Carter | -0- | | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- |

BIG SANDY LIBRARY
DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

Table 10 provides two examples of how apparent increases in funding of public library services may actually result in reduced support. In 1974 the funding for Floyd County was $27,836 and $29,954 in 1975. During the same two years, the adjusted value or purchasing power of these funds declined from $18,846 to $18,582 for a loss of $264.

In Pike County public library funds amounted to $27,302 in 1973 and $30,450 in 1976 for an increase of $3,148. The adjusted value of those funds was $20,512 in 1973 and $17,765 in 1976 for a loss of $2,747 in purchasing power due to economic inflation.

Table 10
Big Sandy Library Development District

| County | 1966-67 | | 1967-68 | | 1968-69 | | 1969-70 | | 1970-71 | | 1971-72 | | 1972-73 | | 1973-74 | | 1974-75 | | 1975-76 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. |
| Floyd | 16083 | | | | 16120 | 14681 | 17878 | 15372 | 19947 | 16444 | 21785 | 17386 | 21690 | 16296 | 27836 | 18846 | 29954 | 18582 | 32592 | 19015 |
| Johnson | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Magoffin | 4124 | | | | 3473 | 3163 | 3752 | 3226 | 3973 | 3275 | 3883 | 3099 | 4310 | 3238 | 6548 | 4433 | 7325 | 4544 | 9396 | 5482 |
| Pike | | | | | | | | | 21949 | 18095 | 18699 | 14923 | 27302 | 20512 | 28288 | 19152 | 23726 | 14718 | 30450 | 17765 |

KENTUCKY RIVER LIBRARY
DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

In Table 11 the nominal local support for public libraries in Breathitt County was $12,208 greater in 1975-76 than in 1972-73. The adjusted value of the support had increased only $1,808 between the same years.

According to Table 11, support for public library services in Leslie County increased $3,135 in a two year period, fiscal 1975 through fiscal 1976. The adjusted value of the support at the same time increased by $1110.

The nominal local support in Letcher County increased $18,727 from 1974 to 1976 while the adjusted value of that support went up $7,022. In Perry County the local adjusted support for public library services was $2,273 less in fiscal 1975 than in fiscal 1968, although the nominal or unadjusted support for public libraries had increased from $35,150 to $50,713.

Table 11
Kentucky River Library Development District

| County | 1966-67 | | 1967-68 | | 1968-69 | | 1969-70 | | 1970-71 | | 1971-72 | | 1972-73 | | 1973-74 | | 1974-75 | | 1975-76 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. |
| Breathitt | | | | | | | | | | | 26183 | 20896 | 31661 | 23787 | 32553 | 22040 | 36718 | 22778 | 43869 | 25595 |
| Knott | 1160 | | | | | | 18143 | 15600 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Lee | | | 1623 | 1558 | 900 | 820 | 1625 | 1397 | 13792 | 11370 | 14348 | 11451 | 14724 | 11062 | 15556 | 10532 | 16336 | 10134 | 18194 | 10615 |
| Leslie | 3511 | | 12879 | 12360 | 12920 | 11767 | 13832 | 11893 | 14925 | 12304 | 13613 | 10864 | 13623 | 10235 | 13658 | 9247 | 19481 | 12085 | 22616 | 13195 |
| Letcher | 5000 | | 30833 | 29590 | 31576 | 28758 | 33929 | 29174 | 34655 | 28570 | 37570 | 29984 | 47515 | 35699 | 41701 | 28234 | 47961 | 29752 | 60428 | 35256 |
| Owsley | | | | | | | 1483 | 1275 | 4246 | 3500 | 4561 | 3640 | 4807 | 3612 | 4160 | 2817 | 6430 | 3989 | 5112 | 2982 |
| Perry | 6928 | | 35150 | 33733 | 36300 | 33060 | 36213 | 31138 | 38985 | 32139 | 44288 | 35346 | 43888 | 32974 | 56403 | 38188 | 50713 | 31460 | 87434 | 51012 |
| Wolfe | 1250 | | | | 7131 | 6495 | 7039 | 6052 | 7168 | 5909 | 8166 | 6517 | 7503 | 5637 | 9040 | 6121 | 9398 | 5830 | 11385 | 6642 |

## CUMBERLAND VALLEY LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

According to Table 12, nominal support for public library services in Harlan County went from $30,481 in fiscal 1973 to $38,507 in fiscal 1976, an increase of $8,026. During the same period, the adjusted support went from $22,901 down to $22,466, a decrease of $435. The increased support was not sufficient to offset the impact of inflation from 1973 through 1976.

Table 12 also indicates the effect that inflation had on support for other public libraries in the Cumberland Valley Library Development District. In Laurel County public library funding went up $15,535 from 1972-73 through 1975-76. The CPI adjusted value of the funding increased only $4,012. While financial support was increasing, dollar values were declining and substantially reducing the purchasing power of added funding.

Table 12
Cumberland Valley Library Development District

| County | 1966-67 | | 1967-68 | | 1968-69 | | 1969-70 | | 1970-71 | | 1971-72 | | 1972-73 | | 1973-74 | | 1974-75 | | 1975-76 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Non. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | .om. | Adj. |
| Bell | 17846 | | 15156 | 14545 | 11880 | 10820 | 10207 | 8776 | | | 75606 | 60340 | 65814 | 49447 | 54419 | 36844 | | | 82926 | 48382 |
| Clay | 3055 | | 3355 | 3220 | 3529 | 3214 | 3787 | 3256 | 3309 | 2728 | 3633 | 2899 | 4287 | 3221 | 7183 | 4863 | 10101 | 6266 | 14241 | 8309 |
| Harlan | 18963 | | 19403 | 18621 | 19674 | 17918 | 20114 | 17295 | 31704 | 26137 | 25124 | 20051 | 30481 | 22901 | 15204 | 17064 | 30362 | 18835 | 38507 | 22466 |
| Jackson | | | | | | | | | | | 300 | 239 | 1009 | 758 | 3993 | 2703 | 9198 | 5706 | 16742 | 9768 |
| Knox | 3640 | | 4137 | 3970 | 11369 | 10354 | 10611 | 9124 | 11308 | 9322 | 11480 | 9162 | 24192 | 18176 | 11437 | 7743 | 14639 | 9081 | 16997 | 9917 |
| Laurel | 21266 | | 23589 | 22638 | 25921 | 23607 | 25115 | 21595 | 23926 | 19725 | 31357 | 25026 | 30090 | 22607 | 33896 | 22949 | 36167 | 22436 | 45625 | 26619 |
| Whitley | | | | | 27511 | 25056 | 27742 | 23854 | 33035 | 27234 | 33586 | 26804 | 36629 | 27520 | 41333 | 27984 | 36783 | 22818 | 59886 | 34939 |
| Rockcastle | 5033 | | 5348 | 5132 | 5555 | 5059 | 5567 | 4787 | 5563 | 4586 | 5954 | 4752 | 6396 | 4805 | 8136 | 5508 | 7963 | 4940 | 8302 | 4844 |

LAKE CUMBERLAND LIBRARY
DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

According to Table 13, the support for Cumberland County public library services was $12,564 in 1971-72 and $14,014 in 1975-76. The adjusted value declined from $10,027 to $8,176, a decrease of $1,851, while the unadjusted income had increased $1,450.

The influence of inflation is also indicated for public library support in Pulaski County. In 1970-71 the nominal or unadjusted funding support was $69,187 and in 1975-76 it was $91,010. The adjusted funding figure for 1970-71 was $57,038 and $52,098 in 1975-76. While the 1975-76 unadjusted amount increased $21,823, the adjusted amount decreased $4,940 due to inflation from fiscal 1971 through 1976.

Table 13
Lake Cumberland Library Development District

| County | 1966-67 | | 1967-68 | | 1968-69 | | 1969-70 | | 1970-71 | | 1971-72 | | 1972-73 | | 1973-74 | | 1974-75 | | 1975-76 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. |
| Adair | 6100 | | 6482 | 6221 | 6351 | 5784 | 5716 | 4915 | 6180 | 5095 | 6766 | 5400 | 7718 | 5799 | 10583 | 7165 | 12223 | 7583 | 12834 | 7488 |
| Casey | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 40913 | 23870 |
| Clinton | 4211 | | 4795 | 4602 | 5704 | 5195 | 5309 | 4565 | 5726 | 4721 | 5865 | 4681 | 5831 | 4381 | 11077 | 7450 | 11059 | 6860 | 12621 | 7363 |
| Cumberland | 4867 | | 4722 | 4532 | 4710 | 4290 | 5870 | 5047 | 11910 | 9819 | 12564 | 10027 | 12194 | 9162 | 12789 | 8659 | 13160 | 8164 | 14014 | 8176 |
| Green | 12225 | | 12754 | 12240 | 13077 | 11910 | 13673 | 11757 | 13003 | 10720 | 13384 | 10682 | 13674 | 10273 | 14140 | 9573 | 14904 | 9246 | 16696 | 9741 |
| McCreary | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 30183 | 17610 |
| Pulaski | 5826 | | 38262 | 36720 | 47975 | 43693 | 49568 | 42621 | 69187 | 57038 | 72008 | 57468 | 77441 | 58183 | 77973 | 52791 | 62988 | 39074 | 91010 | 53098 |
| Russell | 12821 | | 13860 | 13301 | 14855 | 13529 | 16007 | 13764 | 18334 | 15115 | 20132 | 16067 | 23035 | 17307 | 21240 | 14381 | 22575 | 14004 | 23398 | 13651 |
| Taylor | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 2983 | 1740 |
| Wayne | 5283 | | 7755 | 7442 | 8181 | 7451 | 8394 | 7218 | 9296 | 7664 | 8744 | 6978 | 11936 | 8968 | 18438 | 12483 | 13323 | 8265 | 10723 | 6256 |

BLUEGRASS NORTH LIBRARY
DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

Table 14 also offers examples of declining purchasing power of public library support while the amount of unadjusted funds were increasing. Franklin County's nominal local support went from $82,938 in 1974 to $87,686 in 1976 while the adjusted value of public library funding decreased from $56,153 to $51,159.

In Table 14 nominal local support for public libraries in Woodford County rose by $21,170 between fiscal years 1972-73 and 1975-76. During the same period, the purchasing power of public library support in Woodford County increased by $7,199.

Table 14
Bluegrass North Library Development District

| County | 1966-67 | | 1967-68 | | 1968-69 | | 1969-70 | | 1970-71 | | 1971-72 | | 1972-73 | | 1973-74 | | 1974-75 | | 1975-76 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. |
| Anderson | 5003 | | 18069 | 17341 | 21086 | 19204 | 16621 | | 20006 | 16493 | 18964 | 15135 | 22247 | 16715 | 33564 | 22724 | 40662 | 25225 | 32746 | 19105 |
| Bourbon | | | 6338 | 6083 | 24149 | 21994 | 20868 | 24822 | 24148 | 19908 | 24603 | 19635 | 35630 | 26769 | 49419 | 33459 | 45184 | 28030 | 54039 | 31528 |
| Clark | | | | | | | | | | | 18220 | 14541 | 17668 | 13274 | 22810 | 15443 | 77408 | 48020 | 85370 | 49807 |
| Fayette | | | | | 267161 | 243316 | 281994 | 242471 | 299866 | 247210 | 299446 | 238983 | 400786 | 301116 | 411407 | 278542 | 594202 | 368612 | 649717 | 379065 |
| Franklin | 24760 | | 25950 | 24904 | 27950 | 25455 | 31171 | 26802 | 31535 | 25998 | 54018 | 43111 | 62684 | 47095 | 82938 | 56153 | 91390 | 56694 | 87686 | 51159 |
| Harrison | 20136 | | 23138 | 22205 | 23138 | 21073 | 20842 | 17921 | 14873 | 12261 | 22649 | 18076 | 22703 | 17057 | 26700 | 18077 | 35220 | 21849 | 40740 | 23769 |
| Nichols | | | 8299 | 7964 | 8485 | 7728 | 8796 | 7563 | 9586 | 7903 | 9890 | 7893 | 13726 | 10313 | 14069 | 9525 | 18264 | 11330 | 18463 | 10772 |
| Scott | 6514 | | 12692 | 12180 | 15400 | 14026 | 37665 | 32386 | 31119 | 25655 | 35989 | 28722 | 37698 | 28323 | 40874 | 27674 | 56229 | 34882 | 48049 | 28033 |
| Woodford | 7150 | | 12505 | 12001 | 19950 | 18169 | 22849 | 19647 | 22717 | 18728 | 23668 | 18889 | 30689 | 23057 | 37923 | 25676 | 46184 | 28650 | 51859 | 30256 |

BLUEGRASS SOUTH LIBRARY
DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

The funding figures for Lincoln County in Table 15 clearly indicate how inflation can negatively affect a budget that seemingly increases. In 1968-69 the local support for public library services in Lincoln County was $22,771 which by 1975-76 had increased to $31,487. Yet, when these nominal amounts were adjusted by the Consumer Price Index (CPI), the actual value of the support in 1968-69 was $20,739 and $18,370 in 1975-76. While the budget supposedly increased $8,716, the value of the support had declined by $2,369.

Another example of how a continuity or maintenance budget can be negatively affected by inflation is also shown in Table 15. The Estill County support for the fiscal years 1975 and 1976 was $32,313. The adjusted value in 1975 was $20,045 while the next year it was $18,852, a decrease of $1,393.

Table 15
Bluegrass South Library Development District

| County | 1966-67 | | 1967-68 | | 1968-69 | | 1969-70 | | 1970-71 | | 1971-72 | | 1972-73 | | 1973-74 | | 1974-75 | | 1975-76 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. | Nom. | Adj. |
| Boyle | 13887 | | 12109 | 11621 | 10250 | 9426 | 10652 | 9159 | 16827 | 13872 | 32611 | 26026 | 35669 | 26799 | 37428 | 25341 | 40932 | 25392 | 48935 | 28550 |
| Estill | 2490 | | 2490 | 2390 | 1590 | 1448 | 1590 | 1367 | 24753 | 20406 | 24711 | 19721 | 24826 | 18652 | 30894 | 20917 | 32312 | 20045 | 32313 | 18852 |
| Garrard | 1186 | | 400 | 384 | 15306 | 13940 | 15604 | 13417 | 15798 | 13024 | 16279 | 12992 | 17036 | 12799 | 19099 | 12931 | 19798 | 12282 | 21366 | 12466 |
| Jessamine | 2470 | | 2900 | 2783 | 2242 | 2042 | 21003 | 18059 | 20533 | 16927 | 23168 | 18490 | 18903 | 14202 | 32981 | 22330 | 80645 | 50028 | 43182 | 25194 |
| Lincoln | 780 | | 457 | 439 | 22771 | 20739 | 22896 | 19687 | 24272 | 20010 | 24915 | 19884 | 25236 | 18960 | 27510 | 18626 | 28497 | 17678 | 31487 | 18370 |
| Mercer | | | | | | | | | | | | | 31208 | 23447 | 35579 | 24089 | 51911 | 32203 | 40458 | 23604 |
| Powell | | | 3059 | 2936 | 2400 | 2186 | 4181 | 3595 | 4122 | 3398 | 4315 | 3444 | 9408 | 7068 | 2429 | 1645 | 11114 | 6895 | 8873 | 5177 |

## SUPPORT OF PUBLIC LIBRARY SERVICES IN KENTUCKY, 1967-1976

Table 16 shows that total local and state support of local public library services in Kentucky increased by $1,921,869 or 37% between fiscal 1970 and 1976. However, the actual value of the support using 1967 as the base year declined 7% or $322,422 when adjusted by the Consumer Price Index.

The largest amount of support for local public libraries, according to Table 16, was $7,940,381 in 1975, an increase of $2,625,976 over 1974. The adjusted support in fiscal 1975 amounted to $4,925,795 which was an increase of only $1,327,687 over the previous year.

The graph on page 50 indicates the variation between nominal and adjusted support. As the nominal support increased, the value of the dollar decreased offsetting the possibility of substantial financial gains.

TABLE 16
Local and State Funding of Local
Kentucky Public Library Services,
1967-1976, Adjusted by 1967
Dollar Values

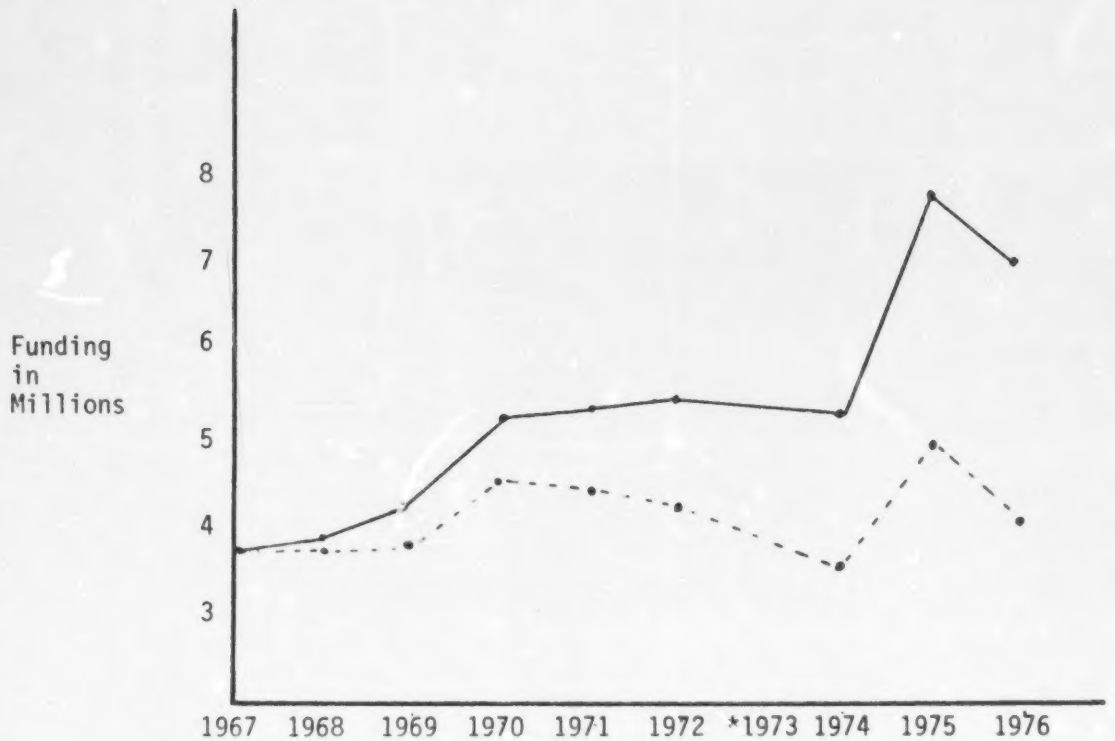
| Fiscal Year | Nominal | Adjusted |
|---|---|---|
| 1976 [1] | 7,144,816 | 4,168,504 |
| 1975 | 7,940,381 | 4,925,795 |
| 1974 | 5,314,405 | 3,598,108 |
| 1973 | No Figures Available | |
| 1972 | 5,475,495 | 4,369,908 |
| 1971 [2] | 5,391,020 | 4,444,369 |
| 1970 | 5,222,947 | 4,490,926 |
| 1969 | 4,362,161 | 3,972,824 |
| 1968 | 3,889,887 | 3,733,096 |
| 1967 | 3,754,219 | |

[1] Davis

[2] Kentucky (7)

GRAPH

Total Nominal and Adjusted
Funding for Local Public Libraries
in Kentucky
1967 - Fiscal 1968




*No figures available

# 4. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

## CONCLUSIONS

Inspection of the tabular data indicates that economic inflation has considerably reduced the purchasing power of funds in support of public libraries in Kentucky from 1967 through fiscal 1976. In fact, there were several incidences in which local support for some public libraries actually declined because the increases were not sufficient to offset the effect of inflation. Maintenance level support seemed a guarantee that a public library would be operating with less in purchasing power.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

Economic inflation must be considered in the planning of public library services and the budgeting of their support. If public libraries are to meet their objectives, they will have to do so with budgets that are being undermined by economic inflation.

Because of inflation, long-range budget planning is important. Public libraries in Kentucky should begin incorporating inflationary projections (see Appendix D) into their planning considerations along with projected income so inflationary effects may be reduced and services maintained at acceptable levels.

More attention should be given to the development of contingency plans in the event that anticipated increases in support do not off-set inflationary effects. Such contingency plans should detail the program areas of greatest importance and those that may be temporarily suspended or terminated during periods of fiscal uncertainty. This includes setting priorities for hours of service,

acquisitions, story hours, etc. Contingency plans should also provide a systematic course of action developed with the assistance of community leaders since community support is essential to the success of such measures in a crisis period.

The Kentucky State Department of Library and Archives should provide regional library directors and local public librarians with the necessary data on inflation that might be incorporated into fiscal planning. This could include a report showing the effect of inflation on public library support during the past year, the rate of inflation during the current fiscal year, and a projection of the inflationary rate for the next several years.

Certainly, more research should be done in the area of how inflation has affected library funding and will affect public library support in the future. This study should be refined and up-dated.

# 5. SUMMARY

The problem considered by this study was the effect that economic inflation had on public library funding in Kentucky from 1967 through fiscal 1976. The hypothesis was that economic inflation reduced the purchasing power of local support for Kentucky public libraries during the period.

Public library services are vital to the educational picture in the United States and to an informed citizenry. The public librarian is a helper, advisor, stimulator, facilitator, and communicator.

Few studies have been done exploring the economic factors contributing to the financial difficulties of public libraries. This study was intended to shed some light on the economics of public library services in Kentucky.

Data on local public library support was obtained from the directors of the fifteen regional library development districts. The figures for each county were arranged in tables and the adjusted value of the support was computed using the Consumer Price Index, base year 1967. The specific analysis of the data and the formulation of inferences was made by inspection of the tables. Analyses were limited to the discussion of various fluctuations between the nominal or unadjusted figures. Recommendations were based upon the inferences and were of a general nature.

Inflation in simple terms is a decrease in the purchasing power of a monetary unit such as the dollar. Inflation may be cost-push or demand-pull (Spencer, 150). Many economists believe that the modern economy is inflation prone (Fusfeld, 362) and that the goal of governmental policy is not complete price stability, but a constant state of predictable inflation (Spencer, 155).

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is an index used to indicate and measure inflationary trends in the economy. The CPI covers goods and services commonly purchased by urban working class families. The CPI is often referred to as a "cost of living index" and is the one with which the general public is most familiar.

Inspection of the tables indicates that economic inflation considerably reduced the purchasing power of funds applied to the support of public libraries in Kentucky from 1967 through fiscal 1976. Maintenance type support seemed to guarantee that a public library would be operating with less in purchasing power.

Economic inflation must be considered in planning public library services and the budgeting of their support. Long-range planning incorporating contingency strategies is vital in the event that anticipated financial increases are not sufficient to offset inflationary effects. The Kentucky State Department of Library and Archives should provide economic information to public libraries necessary to plan budgets in anticipation of economic inflation. Finally, more studies of inflation's impact on public library funding should be done. This particular study should be refined and up-dated.

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APPENDIX A

_____ Library Development District

_____ County

TOTAL LOCAL SUPPORT FOR PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Whenever possible, distinguish between public libraries providing county wide services and those providing limited coverage as municipal libraries. Indicate first year of operation of a public library with local funds. State support should not be included.

1975-76

1974-75

1973-74

1972-73

1971-72

1970-71

1969-70

1968-69

1967-68

1966-67

# APPENDIX B

## Consumer Price Index, 1967 - 1976*

| Year | CPI |
|---|---|
| 1967 | 100 |
| 1968 | 104.2 |
| 1969 | 109.8 |
| 1970 | 116.3 |
| 1971 | 121.3 |
| 1972 | 125.3 |
| 1973 | 133.1 |
| 1974 | 147.7 |
| 1975 | 161.2 |
| 1976 | 171.4 |

* Spencer

## APPENDIX C

### PURCHASING POWER OF THE DOLLAR AT VARIOUS RATES OF INFLATION*

Inflationary rate at:

| Years hence | 2% | 4% | 6% | 8% | 10% | 12% |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 0 | $1.00 | $1.00 | $1.00 | $1.00 | $1.00 | $1.00 |
| 2 | .96 | .92 | .89 | .86 | .83 | .80 |
| 4 | .92 | .85 | .79 | .74 | .68 | .64 |
| 6 | .89 | .79 | .70 | .63 | .56 | .51 |
| 8 | .85 | .73 | .63 | .54 | .47 | .40 |
| 10 | .82 | .68 | .56 | .46 | .39 | .32 |
| 12 | .79 | .62 | .50 | .40 | .32 | .26 |
| 14 | .76 | .58 | .44 | .34 | .26 | .20 |
| 16 | .73 | .53 | .39 | .29 | .22 | .16 |

*Spencer, 158

APPENDIX D

| COUNTY | DISTRICT LOCATED | COUNTY | DISTRICT LOCATED |
|---|---|---|---|
| Adair | Lake Cumberland | Garrad | Bluegrass South |
| Allen | Barren River | Grant | Northern Kentucky |
| Anderson | Bluegrass North | Graves | Purchase |
| Barren | Barren River | Grayson | Lincoln Trail |
| Bath | Buffalo Trace | Green | Lake Cumberland |
| Bell | Cumberland Valley | Greenup | Fivco |
| Boone | Northern Kentucky | Hancock | Green River |
| Bourbon | Bluegrass North | Hardin | Lincoln Trail |
| Boyd | Fivco | Harlan | Cumberland Valley |
| Boyle | Bluegrass South | Harrison | Bluegrass North |
| Bracken | Buffalo Trace | Hart | Barren River |
| Breathitt | Kentucky River | Henderson | Green River |
| Breckinridge | Lincoln Trail | Henry | Kentuckiana |
| Bullitt | Kentuckiana | Hopkins | Pennyrile |
| Butler | Barren River | Jackson | Cumberland Valley |
| Caldwell | Pennyrile | Jefferson | Kentuckiana |
| Calloway | Purchase | Jessamine | Bluegrass South |
| Campbell | Northern Kentucky | Johnson | Big Sandy |
| Carroll | Northern Kentucky | Kenton | Northern Kentucky |
| Casey | Lake Cumberland | Knott | Kentucky River |
| Christian | Pennyrile | Knox | Cumberland Valley |
| Clark | Bluegrass North | Larue | Lincoln Trail |
| Clay | Cumberland Valley | Laurel | Cumberland Valley |
| Clinton | Lake Cumberland | Lawrence | Fivco |
| Crittenden | Pennyrile | Lee | Kentucky River |
| Cumberland | Lake Cumberland | Leslie | Kentucky River |
| Daviess | Green River | Letcher | Kentucky River |
| Edmonson | Barren River | Lewis | Buffalo Trace |
| Estill | Bluegrass South | Lincoln | Bluegrass South |
| Fayette | Bluegrass North | Logan | Barren River |
| Fleming | Buffalo Trace | Lyon | Pennyrile |
| Floyd | Big Sandy | McCracken | Purchase |
| Franklin | Bluegrass North | McCreary | Lake Cumberland |
| Fulton | Purchase | Madison | Bluegrass South |

APPENDIX D - Cont.

| COUNTY | DISTRICT LOCATED | COUNTY | DISTRICT LOCATED |
|---|---|---|---|
| Magoffin | Big Sandy | Powell | Bluegrass South |
| Marion | Lincoln Trail | Pulaski | Lake Cumberland |
| Marshall | Purchase | Rockcastle | Cumberland Valley |
| Mason | Buffalo Trace | Rowan | Buffalo Trace |
| Meade | Lincoln Trail | Russell | Lake Cumberland |
| Menifee | Buffalo Trace | Scott | Bluegrass North |
| Mercer | Bluegrass South | Shelby | Kentuckiana |
| Metcalfe | Barren River | Simpson | Barren River |
| Monroe | Barren River | Spencer | Kentuckiana |
| Montgomery | Buffalo Trace | Taylor | Lake Cumberland |
| Morgan | Buffalo Trace | Trigg | Pennyrile |
| Muhlenberg | Pennyrile | Trimble | Kentuckiana |
| Nelson | Lincoln Trail | Union | Green River |
| Nicholas | Bluegrass North | Warren | Barren River |
| Ohio | Green River | Washington | Lincoln Trail |
| Oldham | Kentuckiana | Wayne | Lake Cumberland |
| Owen | Northern Kentucky | Webster | Green River |
| Owsley | Kentucky River | Whitley | Cumberland Valley |
| Pendleton | Northern Kentucky | Wolfe | Kentucky River |
| Perry | Kentucky River | Woodford | Bluegrass North |
| Pike | Big Sandy | | |